MULTI AWARD WINNING!

SCIENCE + ANIMALS + PUZZLES + PEOPLE + APPS + PHOTOS + BOOKS + SPORTS + A CHAMPION CHEESE

THE WORLD'S BEST NEWS & FACTS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

SPORTS
Texas takes the World Series title
p18

NATIONAL NEWS
Hundreds of bird species renamed
p5

READING
Check out our latest book pick!
p23

November 17, 2023 • Vol. 4, Issue 187 • $5.99

Making sense of the world

THE WEEK Junior

THE BEST MAGAZINE FOR CURIOUS KIDS

TROLLS!

The Trolls pals are back for a new music-filled adventure p20

Founders and leaders of the organizations that won this year's Earthshot Prize

IMPORTANT PRIORITY

The UK royal family, including Prince William and his father, King Charles, is active in many environmental causes.

Earthshot children's book

A new book for children tells the story of the Earthshot Prize and empowers young readers to think about how they can brighten the planet's future. *The Earthshot Prize: A Handbook for Dreamers and Thinkers* features a foreword by Prince William and action steps kids can take to help the environment.

Earthshot Prize winners announced

The winners of the 2023 Earthshot Prize were announced at a ceremony in Singapore on November 7. The recipients were honored for their work in addressing environmental challenges.

What is the Earthshot Prize?

William, the UK's Prince of Wales, created the prize in 2020 to support businesses and organizations that are finding innovative ways to repair and protect the planet. The prize was inspired by former US President John F. Kennedy's Moonshot challenge, which spurred innovation in science and technology and sent humans to the Moon. The Earthshot is awarded in five categories focused on specific goals: protecting and restoring nature, reviving our oceans, cleaning our air, building a waste-free world, and fixing our climate. Each winner receives about $1.2 million to fund their projects. The 15 finalists were chosen from 1,300 nominees.

Prince William

Who were the winners?

The prize recipients were a community-based program called Acción Andina, a global nonprofit called WildAid Marine Program, and three companies: GRST, S4S Technologies, and Boomitra. Acción Andina, based in South America, brings together tens of thousands of local and Indigenous people to restore high forests in the Andes Mountains, where more than 50 endangered species live. The WildAid Marine Program provides nations and law enforcement agencies with resources to fight illegal fishing. GRST, in Hong Kong, developed a method of building and recycling electric car batteries that is healthier for the planet than other methods. S4S Technologies, in India, creates solar-powered equipment used by female farmers to turn crops that might otherwise go to waste into valuable products. Boomitra is a global company that rewards farmers for using sustainable methods.

How were the awards given?

The prizes were presented in Asia for the first time. Singapore was chosen because the island nation has taken ambitious steps to address climate change and is a hub for start-up and technology companies tackling climate issues. Also for the first time, a series of events called Earthshot Week took place. They included a visit by Prince William to an indoor waterfall called the Rain Vortex and entrepreneurship classes for youth leaders from across Southeast Asia. Nonprofit and business leaders also held panels to discuss their work.

The award ceremony, held at The Theatre at Mediacorp and hosted by actor Hannah Waddingham, had a live audience and was televised. Presenters and performers included musical groups OneRepublic and Bastille, conservationist Robert Irwin, and actors Sterling K. Brown, Nomzamo Mbatha, and Cate Blanchett.

What was the reaction?

Winners were overjoyed. "We are honored to be part of the Earthshot Prize's powerful platform for change," said Frank Harley of GRST. The award "is an important milestone in our program's path," said Meaghan Brosnan of WildAid (pictured above, bottom left). Nidhi Pant of S4S Technologies (shown above, top center) said the company will continue to "reduce food waste, protect our natural environment, and empower women." Prince William said, "Our winners and all our finalists remind us that, no matter where you are on our planet, the spirit of ingenuity and the ability to inspire change surrounds us all."

What will happen next?

The winners will return to work, using their prize money and the increased attention from the award to bolster their efforts. Five recipients of the Earthshot Prize will be named each year until 2030. Nominations for the 2024 prize opened on September 19 and will close on December 15.

Messi receives soccer award

On October 30, soccer star Lionel Messi won the Ballon d'Or, the sport's top prize, for a record eighth time. Messi, age 36, has played for Inter Miami CF, in Florida, since July. He is the first Major League Soccer (MLS) player to win the award.

The Ballon d'Or honors the sport's best player over a 12-month period. Prior to joining Inter Miami, Messi played for France's Paris Saint-Germain team. Then, in December 2022, he played for the Argentinian national team and guided them to their first FIFA World Cup win since 1986. He scored seven goals in the tournament, including two against France in the final. After joining Miami, he led the team to the championship in the Leagues Cup, a tournament for MLS and Mexican teams.

Messi is also the only person to have won the World Cup Golden Ball, which goes to the FIFA tournament's top player, twice. And he is the second player ever to score 800 goals. (He now has 821, which is 41 short of the all-time record.) "I couldn't imagine having the career that I've had," Messi said at the award ceremony.

Lionel Messi

DID YOU KNOW?
Diwali gets its name from the Sanskrit word Deepavali, which means "rows of lights."

Families gather to observe Diwali.

Diwali celebrated worldwide

The major Hindu festival of Diwali (pronounced de-VOLL-ee) is set to begin on November 12. Also known as the Festival of Lights, the five-day celebration marks the start of a new year and symbolizes the victory of light over darkness and good over evil. Diwali is celebrated by more than one billion people around the world who follow the Hindu religion, as well as by people who follow the religions of Buddhism, Jainism, and Sikhism.

The meaning of Diwali varies by region but always includes the legend of a hero's triumph over evil. For example, in India, people in the south tell the story of Lord Krishna, a Hindu god, who killed a demon. In the north, Hindus mark the return of a prince named Rama after many days.

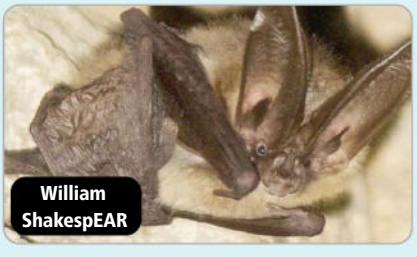
During Diwali, people light diyas, or lamps, to honor Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth, good fortune, and happiness. On the first two days of the festival, people clean and decorate their homes and create colorful art, called rangoli, on the ground. The main event, called Lakshmi Puja, takes place on the third day and includes feasts and fireworks. On the last two days, families exchange gifts and eat special foods, like keer, a rice pudding.

One of the largest Diwali celebrations outside India takes place in Leicester, England, with fireworks, dancing, and carnival rides. Events are also planned across the US, including at the Smithsonian Institution's Asian Art Museum in Washington, DC, and the Chicago Women's Park and Garden in Illinois. A bill to declare Diwali a federal US holiday has been introduced in Congress, and in 2024, for the first time, Diwali will be an official school holiday in New York City.

IT'S AN AMAZING WEEK FOR...

A BAT-TY BEAUTY

A bat named William ShakespEAR won the US Bureau of Land Management's 2023 Bat Beauty Contest, which honors the best-looking bat photographed on public land. The annual event encourages people to protect the animal.



William ShakespEAR

Ole and Maren Gangstad

A CHAMPION CHEESE

A blue cheese from Norway beat out more than 4,500 competitors to take first place in the World Cheese Awards. Judges commended the winner for its "creaminess" and "fruity overtones." "This means so much to us," said Maren Gangstad, who makes the cheese with her husband, Ole.

CROSSING THE FINISH LINE

Kevin DiLegge, who uses a wheelchair, and Matt Burdette, who has pushed him in many races, became the first duo to finish the 31.07-mile Marine Corps ultramarathon. The athletes, known as Team Kevin, started competing as a pair in 2014. "We were meant to meet and run together," Burdette said.

Matt Burdette and Kevin DiLegge

ON THE COVER: DREAMWORKS ANIMATION; ALAMY; ON THIS PAGE: GETTY IMAGES (3); COURTESY EMMA BUSK / BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT; GUILD OF FINE FOOD/ BERRE/HAAKON BORGEN; ON LEFT PAGE: THE EARTHSHOT PRIZE (6); GETTY IMAGES

DID YOU KNOW? About 77% of US adults identify with a religious faith, the Pew Research Center reported.

Protesters marching for unity in Florida on November 5

High school students unite

At Millennium Brooklyn High School in New York City, members of the Jewish Student Union and Muslim Student Association (including those shown above) are expressing solidarity. They issued a statement saying they recognize the pain both communities are facing and reject discrimination of any kind.

US communities call for respect

Amid the ongoing war in the Middle East, protests and vigils have been taking place across the US, including at colleges. An increase in threats against Jewish and Muslim people has led officials to take steps against discrimination.

What is happening?

Since the war between Israel and Hamas started on October 7, an alarming increase in antisemitic and Islamophobic acts has been reported. Antisemitism is discrimination against Jewish people. Islamophobia is a fear of and hostility toward Muslims, whose religion is Islam. According to the Anti-Defamation League, antisemitic acts in the US rose 388% between October 7 and 23. The Council on American-Islamic Relations said it received 182% more reports of bias and requests for help from Muslims between October 7 and 24.

What is happening on college campuses?

Hundreds of campus protests are being held. Some demonstrators have used threatening language against others, and many students have reported feeling unsafe. Classes were canceled at Cornell University in New York on November 3 after threats against Jewish students were posted on a campus website. Georgetown University in Washington, DC, has cited increased harassment against Arab, Muslim, and other students of similar descent.

How is the US government reacting?

On October 30, the White House announced new steps to combat antisemitism on college campuses. Two days later, the administration said it was developing a strategy to prevent attacks on Muslims or those believed to be Muslim. The government is working with thousands of police departments across the nation to understand and stop the threats. Communities across the country, including in Florida, New York, Iowa, and Montana, have been holding vigils to honor those who have lost their lives in the war and to pray for peace.

What will happen next?

Police will continue to monitor and prevent crimes. Colleges are seeking to stop discrimination against Jewish and Muslim students, and officials are calling for an end to threats. "Let me be clear: We cannot allow hate and intimidation to become normalized," said New York Governor Kathy Hochul.

WORD OF THE WEEK

MIGRATE

Many birds migrate by traveling to a different place, often to a warmer climate or in search of food. The word "migrate" comes from the Latin *migrare*, meaning "to move" or "shift." That same root also gave us two words used when people move: "immigrate," meaning to move to a different country, and "emigrate," meaning to move away from a country.

THE WEEK IN HISTORY

November 10, 1969

Sesame Street first airs on TV

On November 10, 1969, *Sesame Street*, the children's educational program, first aired on PBS. Set in a fictional New York City neighborhood, the show was created to prepare children for kindergarten. It was a hit, and studies showed that children with access to it did better in school. More than 80 million Americans have watched *Sesame Street*, and it has aired in more than 120 countries.

Sesame Street characters

Americans head to the polls

When *The Week Junior* went to press on November 7, Americans were voting on Election Day. The President and most members of Congress were not on the ballot, but hundreds of state and local elections were held. Kentucky, Mississippi, and Louisiana were electing governors, and voters in major cities including Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and Houston, Texas, were choosing mayors. Next week's issue will feature a full report on the election results.

New Navy leader makes history

After being confirmed by the Senate (one half of Congress) by a vote of 95–1 on November 2, Lisa Franchetti was sworn in as the nation's 33rd Chief of Naval Operations. The appointment makes Franchetti the first woman to serve as the head of the US Navy and the first woman to be a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, a group of top-ranking military leaders who advise the President.

Holiday tree is selected

An 80-foot Norway spruce tree in Vestal, New York, will be the 2023 Rockefeller Center Christmas tree. It was chosen by Erik Pauze, who has been in charge of finding the holiday tree for 30 years. When the tree arrives in New York City, it will be decorated with more than 50,000 lights. The lighting ceremony will air on NBC on November 29.

The tree

Bewick's wren
Cooper's hawk
WOW!
There are 2,059 species of birds living in North America, according to the Cornell Lab of Ornithology.
Lewis's woodpecker
Some of the birds that will get new names are shown here.
Wilson's warbler

Hundreds of birds to be renamed

The American Ornithological Society (AOS) has announced that it will rename all birds that are named after people. The change is being made to ensure that names of people who engaged in discrimination are not attached to the birds.

The AOS, based in Chicago, Illinois, has maintained a list of English-language names for birds in North America since 1886. In 2020, a petition demanding a change to bird names that were considered harmful was signed by 182 people and submitted to the AOS. A committee determined that renaming birds on an individual basis was not feasible and that all birds named after people should get new names.

"There is power in a name," said Colleen Handel, the president of AOS. "Some English bird names have associations with the past that continue to be exclusionary." The new names, she said, would focus on "the unique features and beauty of the birds themselves."

The AOS will begin coming up with new common names for the birds in 2024, first focusing on 70 to 80 species in the US and Canada. The scientific names of the species, written in Latin, will not be changed. The names of birds in Latin America will be considered next. Ultimately, the AOS plans to change the names of 263 birds.

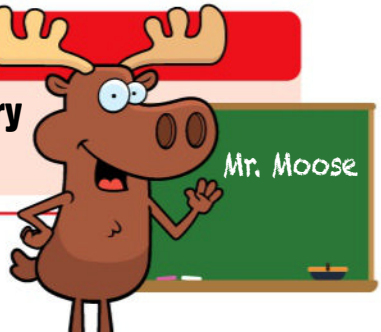
Some birds have already gotten a new name. In 2020, the AOS renamed a songbird that had been named after a general in the US Civil War (1861–1865) who had been part of the Confederacy, the group of states that fought to preserve slavery. The songbird's new name is the thick-billed longspur.

This bird was renamed the thick-billed longspur in 2020.

Emily Williams, a bird researcher at Georgetown University, told the Associated Press she is "excited" about the news. Christian Cooper, a Black bird enthusiast, told *The New York Times*, "There's no reason to have a person's name attached to a bird because it doesn't tell you anything about the bird."

THE WEEK'S SILLIEST HEADLINE

"Moose visits Massachusetts elementary school during morning drop-off" *UPI*



GETTY IMAGES (6); US NAVY; COURTESY TISHMAN SPEYER; ON LEFT PAGE: ALIE SKOWRONSKI; NY1/JILLIAN JORGENSEN; ALAMY; GETTY IMAGES

Around the world

Spain
Plan to reduce short flights

Two political parties in Spain have promised to tackle pollution by reducing short flights within the country. The Spanish Socialist Workers' Party and the Sumar party, which reached an agreement to run the country after recent elections, plan to ban air travel between Spanish airports for trips that would take less than 2.5 hours by train. Critics say the changes are symbolic and will do little to curb pollution.

Mexico
Day of the Dead is observed

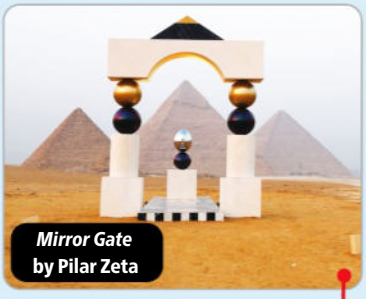
Thousands of people lined the streets of Mexico City to watch its annual Day of the Dead parade, featuring musicians and dancers in skeleton makeup and colorful costumes. The holiday was observed from October 31–November 2 to remember and celebrate loved ones who have died. During this time, the dead are believed to temporarily return to the world. Families welcome them back with offerings, such as a favorite food.

Democratic Republic of Congo
Country faces humanitarian crisis

Escalating conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo has forced 6.9 million people to flee their homes. The United Nations (an organization of 193 nations working for peace and cooperation) said the figure is a new record for the country. Thousands of emergency shelters have been built, and more humanitarian aid is needed.

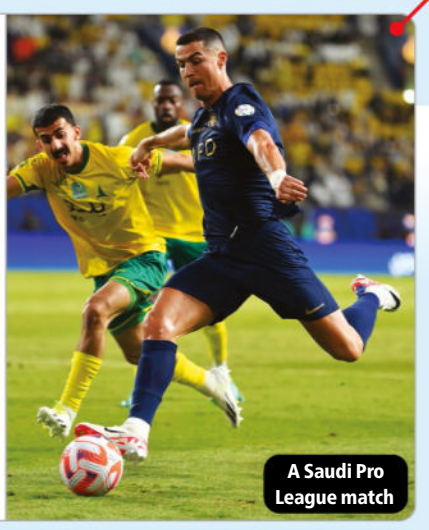
Pyramids of Giza, Egypt
Modern art at ancient pyramids

A modern art exhibit at the Pyramids of Giza, titled *Forever Is Now*, has returned for a third year. This year's show is the biggest yet and features works by 14 artists. (One work is shown at right.) The free event aims to celebrate ancient Egyptian culture with modern artistry. Artists were careful not to harm the 4,500-year-old World Heritage Site.



Saudi Arabia
Nation is likely to host 2034 World Cup

The 2034 men's soccer World Cup is all but certain to be held in Saudi Arabia, as it was the only country to submit a bid by the deadline. FIFA, the global governing body for soccer, is expected to officially announce the decision late next year. Some political and social activists have said they do not want Saudi Arabia to host the tournament due to the country's poor record on human rights.



GETTY IMAGES (4); ARCH EXIST; REUTERS; SHUTTERSTOCK (2); ALAMY (2)

Survivors in Nepal

Jajarkot, Nepal
Rescue after earthquake

Rescue efforts have been underway since an earthquake struck western Nepal on November 3. More than 150 people have died, and about 375 have been injured. Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal sent the army, helicopters, and health workers to distribute food, medicine, and other forms of aid to those affected.

Passengers on a train in Seoul

Seoul, South Korea
Making more room for riders

Seoul's subway system is planning to introduce subway cars without seats in a trial program that aims to ease congestion. About 7 million people use the Seoul Metro each day, and the new measure will create more space for commuters heading to and from work during rush hour. The trial will begin in January. If it is effective in relieving overcrowding, more trains will have cars without seats.

The trash collectors

Tokyo, Japan
Samurai tackle trash on city streets

The morning after Halloween celebrations on the streets of Tokyo, a group of people dressed as samurai (a type of Japanese warrior) gathered to collect the leftover trash. The group, Gomi Hiroi Samurai (which means trash-collecting samurai), wear wicker baskets on their back to collect waste. One member said, "If we can draw attention on the street, people who have no interest in the trash problem will become aware of it."

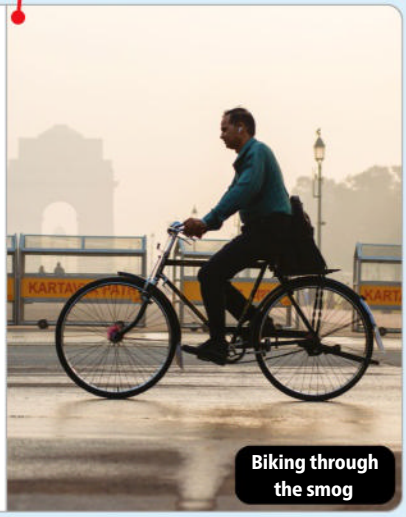
The museum

Chengdu, China
Science fiction museum opens

The Chengdu Science Fiction Museum has opened its doors to the public. China's newest museum—a star-shaped building on a lake—was built in 12 months, in time to host the 2023 World Science Fiction Convention, also known as Worldcon. Technology sped up the design and construction of the 635,070-square-foot museum, which has galleries, educational spaces, and cafés.

Delhi, India
Schools close due to heavy air pollution

Elementary schools in Delhi are closed for at least one week because of the city's poor air quality. The amount of pollutants (harmful materials) in the air has reached nearly 100 times the acceptable limit. Delhi is often very polluted in November because that is when many farmers burn their remaining crops. To reduce the smog, officials in the city have banned polluting vehicles, construction work, and the use of fireworks.


Biking through the smog

Has casual dressing gone too far?

Some people think it's fine to dress down. Others say that's not a good look.

What you need to know

- **Dress codes are official or unofficial rules about what clothing people can wear in certain places or situations. They have existed for centuries.**
- **Over time, standards have changed. For example, in the US, women had to wear dresses or skirts—not pants—until the mid-1900s.**
- **In September, US senators were told they could dress casually, but a formal dress code was enacted 10 days later. Business attire, like jackets and ties, must be worn on the Senate floor.**

The US Senate (one half of Congress) stirred controversy this year by first relaxing and then formalizing the dress code for lawmakers. Yet the question of what people should wear has come up many times before and in many other situations. People used to dress up to see a play, fly on a plane, go to work, or attend social events. Now these spaces are often a mash-up of formal finery, stretchy "athleisure," old T-shirts, ripped jeans, and sneakers. Some say this change in standards is for the best, while others think the acceptance of laid-back attire is bad for society. What do you think? Has casual dressing gone too far?

Yes—appearances do matter

It's fine to wear sweatpants and T-shirts at home or to the grocery store. But when you go to a nice restaurant or to see a play at a theater, dressing nicely shows respect to the people who work hard to create that experience for you. And if you want respect, it's important to look respectable. For example, members of Congress should dress in a way that reflects the high position they hold as leaders of the country. If they can't make an effort to dress well, how can we trust them to represent us? And finally, dressing up is fun and can make you feel good. How you present yourself to the world affects how you feel about yourself.

No—it's a matter of choice

Times change, and people should be able to adapt with them. Imagine if all men still had to wear three-piece suits and ties to work every day and women still had to wear dresses and pantyhose. No one would be comfortable. People do a better job at work and school when they wear comfy clothes. Plus, nicer clothes are expensive to buy, clean, and maintain. Not everyone can afford them. Nobody should be excluded from an environment because of their clothing, and everyone should be allowed to express their own individual style. As long as people are acting respectfully, it shouldn't matter what they wear.

YES Three reasons why casual dressing has gone too far

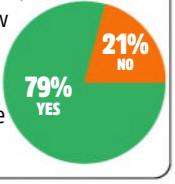
1. **Different environments call for different styles of dress. Making an effort to dress well shows respect for others.**
2. **How a person looks reflects how they will be seen by other people. Casual dress won't be respected.**
3. **Dressing nicely is fun and makes people feel good about themselves.**

NO Three reasons why casual dressing has not gone too far

1. **Clothing styles have changed with the times, and people should have the freedom to wear what they want.**
2. **Not everyone can afford to buy, clean, and take care of nice clothes.**
3. **If people are behaving in a respectful way in public and doing their jobs, it shouldn't matter what they're wearing.**

LAST WEEK'S POLL

Last week, we asked if digital art counts as real art. Your votes show that you value art no matter how it's made: 79% of you said yes, while 21% said no.



What do you think?

Now that you've read a bit more about this issue, visit kids.theweekjunior.com/polls so you can vote in our debate. Vote YES if you think casual dressing has gone too far or NO if you don't. We'll publish the results next week.

The goal of the big debate is to present two sides of an issue fairly in order to stimulate discussion and allow our readers to make up their minds. The views on this page do not reflect those of *The Week Junior*, and the page is not funded by third parties.

GETTY IMAGES

Leading the field

Erin Matson is the youngest head coach in NCAA Division I sports.

After becoming one of the top field hockey athletes in the US while playing for the University of North Carolina (UNC) in Chapel Hill, Erin Matson is now the team's head coach. She got the job two months after graduating from UNC. At age 22, she became the youngest coach to lead a National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division I sport.

Matson, who grew up in Pennsylvania, began playing for the UNC field hockey team as a freshman in 2018. She helped lead the Tar Heels to four NCAA championships and five Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) titles. She was a three-time winner of the Honda Sports Award for field hockey player of the year.

Now 23, Matson is in her first year as the team's leader. Besides coaching, she manages the team's budget and schedule. "As a young coach, I know I have a lot to learn," Matson told *The Week Junior*. "It can sometimes feel like a struggle, but it's also so rewarding."

The UNC logo

Matson knew she wanted to pursue the job when head coach Karen Shelton, age 65, officially announced her retirement in December 2022. Shelton had been with the program since 1981, turning it into the top field hockey team in the country with 10 national championships.

The 2023 season turned out to be another big one for the Tar Heels and for Matson. On November 3, UNC beat Duke University, 2–0, to win its seventh straight ACC championship title. "It makes me proud every single day, this team and the people I'm surrounded with," Matson said. It's an honor to "carry on this legacy and see what we can do in the future."

Erin Matson

RECORD HOLDER
Erin Matson is the all-time leading field hockey scorer in NCAA tournament and ACC history.

Top young scientist

Heman Bekele, a 14-year-old from Virginia, has won the 2023 3M Young Scientist Challenge, a national competition with a cash prize of $25,000. He was awarded the honor for creating a soap that contains a compound that can treat skin cancer. Bekele said he was inspired to study skin cancer after spending his early years in Ethiopia, where he saw people working outside without any sun protection. "I am passionate about finding sustainable solutions to global problems, and I hope to inspire others to do the same," he said.

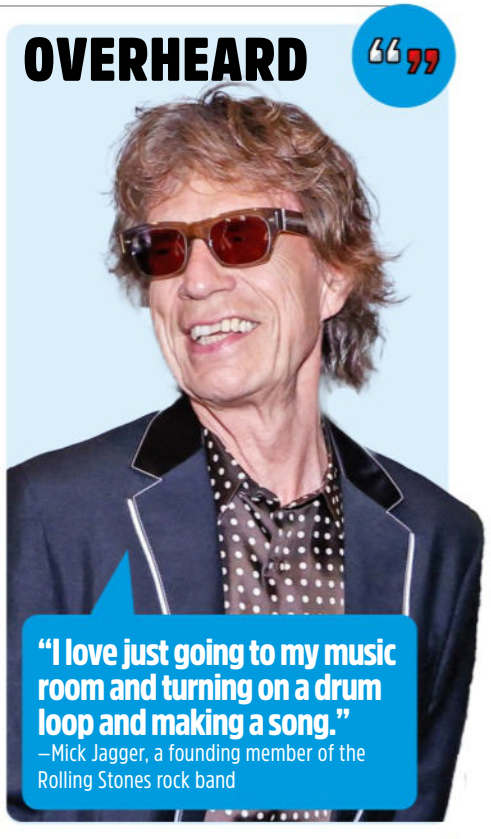
Heman Bekele

Rachel Maddow

Revisiting US history

Award-winning television host and author Rachel Maddow, age 50, has published a new book about the US in the years before and during World War II (1939–1945). *Prequel: An American Fight Against Fascism* explores how authoritarianism (when one leader has total power) in other countries in the 1930s affected the US. Maddow, who hosts MSNBC's *The Rachel Maddow Show*, got the idea for the book after researching moments of forgotten political history for her podcast. "We have a lot to learn from Americans who confronted forces like this," she said. "It's...a rich time period."

OVERHEARD



"I love just going to my music room and turning on a drum loop and making a song."
–Mick Jagger, a founding member of the Rolling Stones rock band

UNC ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS (2); ANDY KING/DISCOVERY EDUCATION 2023; GETTY IMAGES (2)

DID YOU KNOW?
The island of Redonda, which is one mile long, is a leftover part of a volcano.

Redonda before (above) and after conservation efforts

Mini gecko bounces back

Conservationists helped save a tiny lizard in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. Union Island geckos were critically endangered after people started illegally trading them. Protected areas were then expanded, with local people helping to patrol them. Thanks to these efforts, the geckos' population has nearly doubled.

A Union Island gecko

One island's miraculous comeback

For many years, the Caribbean island of Redonda was a bare rock with very little wildlife on it. Thanks to local environmental groups, it has now been restored to its former state and was recently named a protected area by the government of Antigua and Barbuda.

Redonda was once a haven for wildlife. In the 17th century, people set foot on the island for the first time and found that guano (poop) produced by seabirds was useful for making fertilizer to help farm crops grow. Humans began to mine the guano, and with the people came goats and black rats—invasive species that did not originally live there.

A nesting bird on Redonda

Although humans eventually stopped collecting guano and left the island, the goats and rats stayed behind. They ate many of the island's plants and preyed on other species, eventually leaving Redonda a barren (plantless) landscape. Without plants, birds stopped nesting there and some of the soil began crumbling into the sea.

In 2016, conservationists started a project to help the island and its wildlife recover. They began by removing the species that weren't supposed to be living there. Within months, the island's plants began to grow back on their own. As the environment gradually became healthier, species that were native to the island began to thrive again. Researchers say the population of the Redonda ground dragon has grown 13 times larger since 2017, for example. Other lizard species are also on the rise, and 15 species of birds have returned to the island.

The new protected area, the Redonda Ecosystem Reserve, encompasses the island itself plus the sea around it, including seagrass meadows and a coral reef. Conservation groups will ensure that the island is protected from other invasive species, and strict rules about fishing in the area will be put in place. Coordinator Johnella Bradshaw said, "Redonda shows that rewilding works when Mother Nature is left to do what she does best."

PLACE OF THE WEEK

Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve, Alaska

This remote park is part of a UNESCO World Heritage Site known for its large ice field and spectacular glaciers. Most people visit by boat, since nearly one fifth of the park is water. The rest includes rugged mountains, non-tropical rainforests, and more than 1,000 glaciers. The park serves as a research site where scientists study plant and animal life. Glacier Bay has lots of wildlife, including mountain goats, humpback whales, harbor seals, and tufted puffins. Spruce and hemlock grow near the mouth of the bay, and wildflowers bloom in the mountains.

A humpback whale in Glacier Bay

An earthworm fresh from a dig

Earthworms are doing their part

Did you know that earthworms help to create healthy soil and play a major role in growing our food? Scientists knew the animals were important, but new research has revealed that the creatures help grow 6.5% of the world's grain (such as rice, corn, and wheat)—making them one of the world's greatest grain producers.

Worms make soil healthier by eating dead plants. As they digest the plants, they produce the nutrients other plants need in order to grow. Worms also help soil capture and keep water, and their movements create tunnels that help plants grow roots.

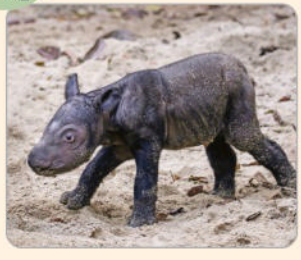
To see what effect worms had on grain, researchers compared global maps of earthworm populations with maps showing soil quality and how well crops grew in different areas. However, other living things in the soil could also be having a positive impact, so more research is needed. Steven Fonte, one of the researchers, said the study shows there is more to be learned about soil biodiversity (the variety of living things in soil) and how it can boost crops.

Animal of the week: West African dwarf crocodile

Experts at Bristol Zoo Gardens in the UK used technology to study the sounds of West African dwarf crocodiles. They discovered that they make some strange noises, including sounds similar to howling wind and a cow mooing.

- **LIFE SPAN:** 50 to 100 years
- **HABITAT:** Swamps, rivers, streams, and forests
- **SIZE:** Up to 5 feet long
- **DIET:** Small animals like fish, insects, and shrews
- **FUN FACT:** Crocodiles have a set of see-through eyelids that can protect their eyes underwater.

Good week / Bad week



Sumatran rhinos

A Sumatran rhino has been born in an Indonesian national park. The baby girl weighed about 60 pounds at birth and has yet to be named. Her arrival brings hope for the critically endangered species—fewer than 80 are left in Indonesia.

Antarctica

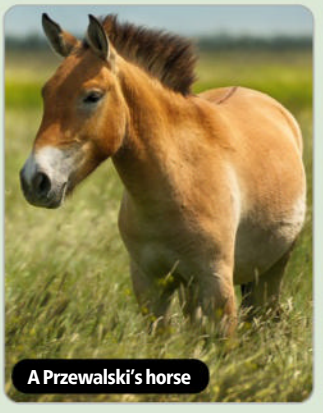
Plants, moss, and algae are growing on the icy continent, and sea ice levels are at record lows due to high temperatures in the region. Scientists predict that by 2100, there will be three times as much ice-free land on Antarctica.

Ask an expert: "How did horses evolve?"

Josie, 9, New Jersey

Mandi de Mestre
Professor of equine medicine, Baker Institute for Animal Health

Horses' ancestors were called Sifrhippus sandrae. They lived in North America about 55 million years ago, and some traveled to different parts of the world. The modern domesticated horse can be traced to about 4,200 years ago, and the wild Przewalski's horse originated in Kazakhstan.


A Przewalski's horse

Do you have a question for an animal expert? Send it to *hello@theweekjunior.com*. Find out more about the Baker Institute for Animal Health at vet.cornell.edu/baker.

GETTY IMAGES (3); REUTERS; NATURE PICTURE LIBRARY; ON LEFT PAGE: MIKE APPLETON; EDWARD MARSHALL; EDWARD MARSHALL; JACOB BOCK; GETTY IMAGES; ALAMY

A famous setting for

The world-renowned venue has been home to jazz musicians for decades.

In New Orleans, Louisiana, one little performance space is keeping musical traditions alive. Discover Preservation Hall.

Jazz is born

New Orleans is considered the birthplace of jazz. The musical style has its roots in the city's Congo Square, where enslaved people gathered to play songs from their home countries. A mix of music from Africa, the Caribbean, and the southern US developed, and jazz emerged as its own genre at the turn of the 20th century. By the 1950s, though, rock 'n' roll had the spotlight. As jazz venues closed, E. Lorenz "Larry" Borenstein invited local musicians to play in the courtyard of an art gallery he owned. Soon, nightly concerts were held there.

Sandra and Allan Jaffe

A place to play

At the start of the 1960s, Allan and Sandra Jaffe, a newlywed couple from Pennsylvania with a deep love of New Orleans jazz, visited the city. They decided to make it their home and became regular attendees at the music sessions in the gallery. In September 1961, Borenstein handed over the keys to the Jaffes so they could run the space themselves. Allan, a tuba player, drove his motor scooter around town looking for jazz musicians and offering them jobs. Sandra organized the concert schedules. The building was soon known as Preservation Hall (because it was helping to "preserve" jazz). At the time, many states enforced segregation (the unjust separation of people by race), but Preservation Hall was a rare place where Black and white band members and audiences could come together to share the music.

DID YOU KNOW?
Every year, more than 170,000 people visit Preservation Hall to hear traditional "NOLA" — New Orleans — jazz.

The Preservation Hall Jazz Band in 2011 included (from left) Freddie Lonzo, Joe Lastie, Ben Jaffe, Mark Braud, and Charlie Gabriel.

Famous jazz legends

Many notable musicians have played at Preservation Hall over the years. Here are a few of the most admired figures from the venue's history.

Sweet Emma Barrett

This self-taught pianist and singer was a pioneer of jazz and a trailblazer for women. She began playing publicly at age 12 and continued for 70 years, becoming one of Preservation Hall's most beloved bandleaders. She was known to wear a red cap and bells that jingled as she played.

MARK PETERSON/REDUX; COURTESY OF PRESERVATION HALL (2); GETTY IMAGES (5)

music in New Orleans

SPECIAL HONOR
In 2006, President George W. Bush awarded the Preservation Hall Jazz Band the prestigious National Medal of Arts.

The jazz band

Spreading a city's spirit

Before long, the Preservation Hall Jazz Band was formed. Several groups of musicians, performing under this name, began touring the US in 1963. Eventually, they traveled globally and played alongside famous musical acts. The band helped spark new interest in New Orleans music and attracted tourists and aspiring musicians to the city. When the hall had to temporarily close in 2005 due to the devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina, the band continued touring and sharing the spirit of the city. They have performed at festivals, sports events (above), and New York City's Carnegie Hall. To date, the band has recorded about 20 albums featuring jazz classics and their own original songs.

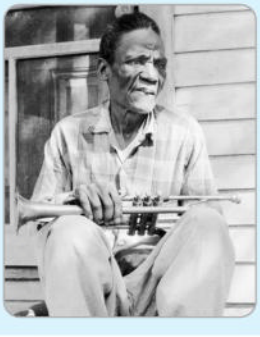
A midnight concert

Still making history

Today, Preservation Hall is owned by Ben Jaffe, Allan and Sandra's son. About 60 musicians perform, including musical director Charlie Gabriel, age 91, who has been called the "elder statesman" of New Orleans jazz. The walls feature portraits of musicians who came before them, including paintings by artist Noel Rockmore. While the band's lineup includes many songs that were played there in the 1960s, its artistic director, Ron Rona, says the word "preservation" can be deceptive. "Jazz is an evolution," he told *Smithsonian Magazine*. "The melodies might be the same, the forms might be the same. But the musicians put themselves into it." In that way, he said, "These are brand-new tunes."

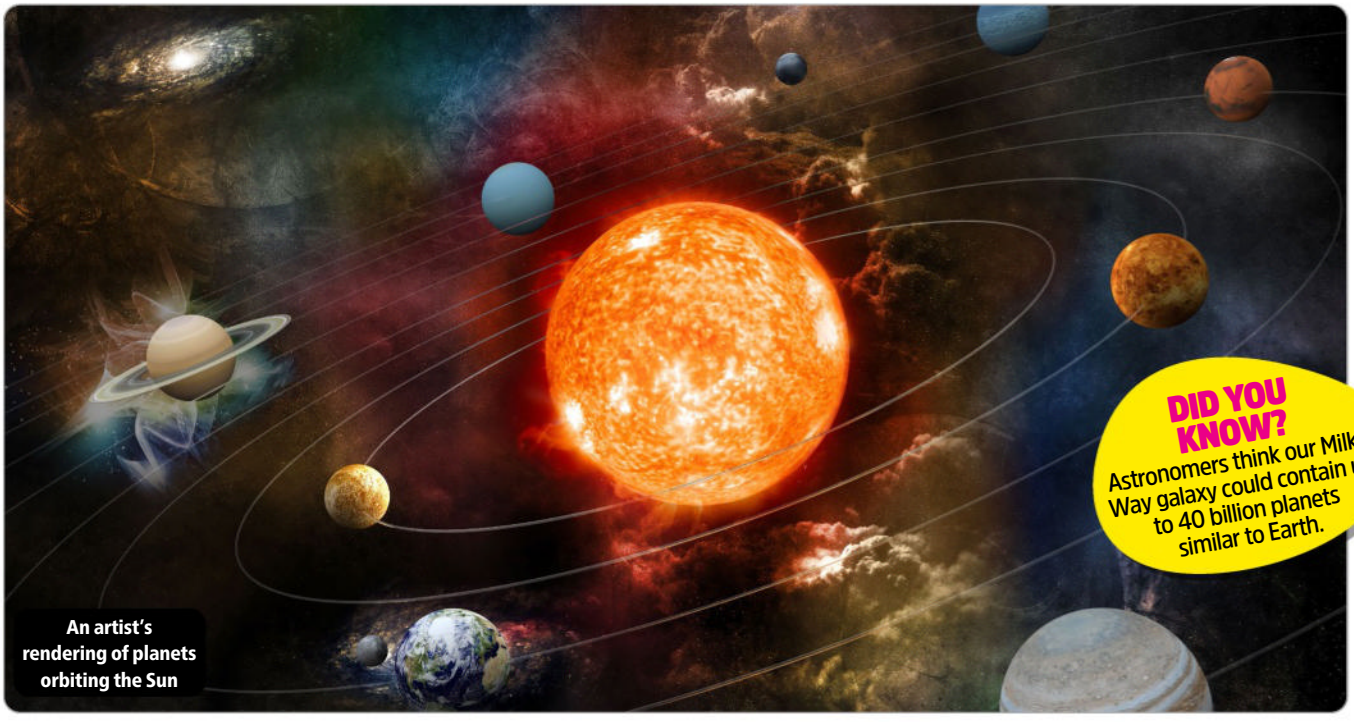
George Lewis

Clarinetist George Lewis helped lead the revival of traditional jazz in New Orleans and around the world. He became a regular performer and bandleader at Preservation Hall, toured in Europe and Japan, and played with nearly every local jazz musician during his career.



Punch Miller

Also known as "Kid Punch," this talented instrumentalist and vocalist was best known for his nimble trumpet-playing. He was a regular player at Larry Borenstein's gallery and one of the first stars at Preservation Hall. He continued to perform in New Orleans until his death in 1971.



An artist's rendering of planets orbiting the Sun

DID YOU KNOW?
Astronomers think our Milky Way galaxy could contain up to 40 billion planets similar to Earth.

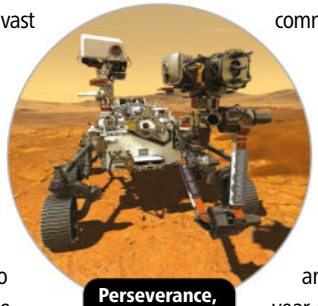
Searching for alien life with AI

Does alien life exist? It's a question many people have tried to answer. Now scientists have identified a new method for finding extraterrestrial (originating outside Earth) life-forms using artificial intelligence (AI). AI is a type of program that allows a computer to learn from experience and perform tasks that usually require human intelligence. AI works by taking in vast amounts of data, then making predictions based on it.

The research team used their AI method to analyze different materials and determine whether they were biotic (a living thing) or abiotic (not a living thing). The AI was also able to tell whether a biotic sample was currently living or a fossil (impression or trace of ancient plants or animals).

To train the AI program, the researchers gave it data on 134 biotic and abiotic materials. The program then used that knowledge to predict whether things like human hair, bones, teeth, leaves, coal, and chemicals were alive or not. The team said the AI was 90% accurate.

The scientists also think the AI tool could detect alien life-forms, even though conditions for life are different on other planets. "We may be able to find a life-form from another planet...even if it is very different from the life we know on Earth," said Robert Hazen of the Carnegie Institution for Science in Washington, DC, who co-led the study. "If we do find signs of life elsewhere, we can tell if life on Earth and other planets derived from a common or different origin."

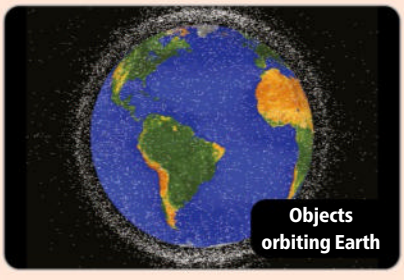


Perseverance, NASA's rover

For now, though, the team is focused on ancient rock samples from Earth to learn more about life on our own planet and where it originated. For example, the tool could be used to settle a disagreement among scientists about 3.5-billion-year-old rocks from Western Australia. Some experts believe they contain Earth's oldest fossil samples, but others think the rocks just have unusual patterns.

The AI could also be used to examine samples from Mars collected by the Perseverance rover. NASA (the US space agency) put this wheeled robot on the red planet to search for evidence that Mars has the right conditions to support life. Perseverance is gathering rock samples that will be brought to Earth in 2033.

Cleaning up "space junk"



Objects orbiting Earth

Right now, more than 8,000 human-made satellites are orbiting Earth taking pictures or sending TV, phone, or internet signals around the globe. There are also 2,000 inactive ones. The US Federal Communications Commission (FCC) requires that some inactive satellites be moved so they don't become "space junk" or crash into one another.

Now, for the first time, the FCC has fined a TV provider $125,000 for failing to move a satellite. One of Dish Network's satellites stopped working in 2022, when it was 22,000 miles from Earth. Dish was supposed to move it 186 miles farther away but only moved it 76 miles. Experts think the fine could encourage other companies to clean up their space junk.

Paint speck reveals secrets of *Mona Lisa*

One of the most famous paintings in the world, the *Mona Lisa*, is known for its subject's mysterious smile. Now scientists are uncovering some of its secrets, including the methods of the artist who created it, Leonardo da Vinci.

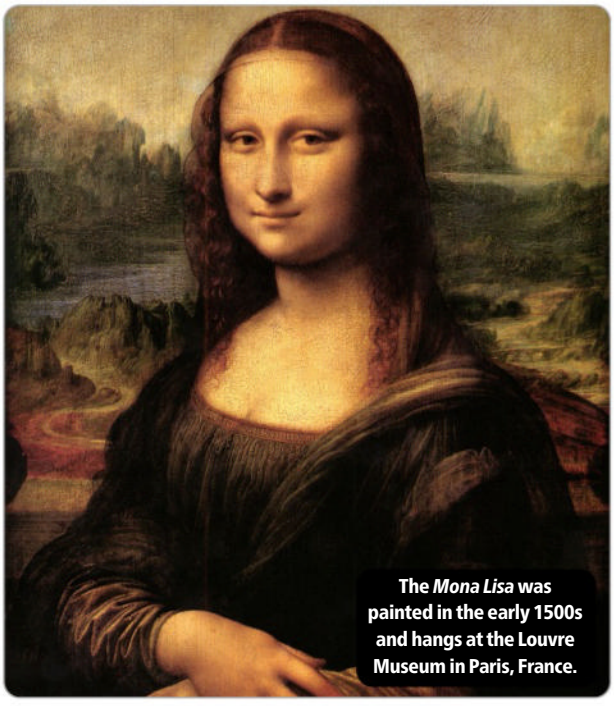
Researchers from the French National Centre for Scientific Research used x-ray and infrared radiation to analyze a tiny speck of paint from the top right edge of the painting. Though the sample was no thicker than a human hair, the scientists were able to determine the paint's chemical makeup.

SEEING BACKWARD
Leonardo da Vinci used "mirrored writing," which ran from right to left and was readable only when held up to a mirror.

The team found that the paint contained a rare compound called plumbonacrite. Da Vinci likely formed this material by mixing lead oxide powder with oil in order to create a thick, fast-drying base layer of paint. Plumbonacrite has been found in other paintings as well, including da Vinci's *The Last Supper* and some works by the Dutch artist Rembrandt in the 1600s.

Da Vinci is known for trying out different techniques in his art. Victor Gonzalez, the study's lead author, told *The Times* in the UK that understanding how da Vinci made his paint will be helpful if his works need restoration in the future.

The discovery of plumbonacrite is evidence of "Leonardo's spirit of passionate and constant experimentation as a painter," art expert Carmen Bambach told the Associated Press. "It is what renders him timeless and modern."



The *Mona Lisa* was painted in the early 1500s and hangs at the Louvre Museum in Paris, France.

Goalies process information quickly.

Goalies think differently, study shows

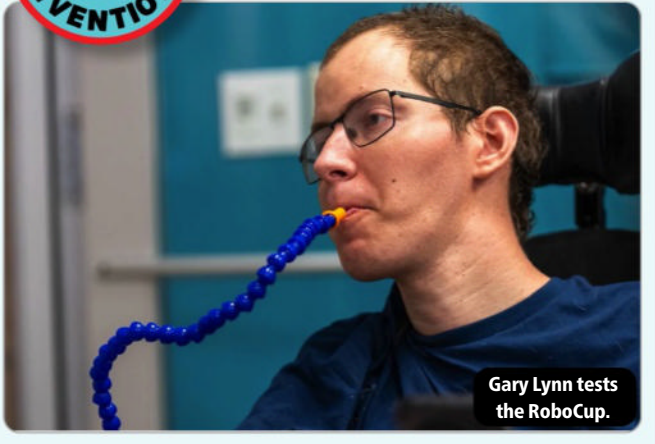
A new study found that soccer goalies experience the world differently than their teammates do. On the field, goalies use multiple senses to make essential decisions in seconds. For example, they see a ball move and hear it being kicked, then combine that information to decide what they need to do to stop it.

Researchers in Ireland studied 60 people in three groups: goalies, other players, and non-players. Each person completed tasks that tested how quickly they could process different sensory information, like sounds and images. Not only were goalies faster at combining information from different sources, but they could also separate the signals and react to one or the other.

The team hopes to figure out whether goalies learn this skill through athletic training or people with the skill are more drawn to being a goalie. They will also study players in other positions.

AMAZING INVENTION

A robotic straw for wheelchair users



Gary Lynn tests the RoboCup.

Students at Rice University in Texas designed a device to help people with mobility challenges drink water without assistance. Named RoboCup, the device was developed with Gary Lynn, who cannot use his arms or legs and runs a nonprofit for people with similar challenges.

RoboCup attaches to a wheelchair and has a water bottle with a flexible straw. The user activates a sensor that moves the straw toward their face so they can drink, then away again. The team will keep working on RoboCup to adapt it for many different users.

GETTY IMAGES (2); BRANDON MARTIN/ RICE UNIVERSITY; ON LEFT PAGE: NASA (2); GETTY IMAGES

Photos of the week

Colorful cattle
A cow in Turkey is decorated with beads and ropes in an annual herding ritual.

Round and round
The circular Dahe Civilization Museum in China is seen from above.

GETTY IMAGES (6)

Photos of the week

Rock on
Large stones dot the landscape in Portugal.

Cultural tradition
A woman in Mexico poses with marigolds to celebrate the Day of the Dead.

Rainbow foliage
Rows of bright leaves line a canyon in China.

Dramatic design
The Dalí Theatre-Museum in Spain features a surrealistic exterior.

The Rangers celebrating

WOW! More than 70 million fans attended regular-season Major League Baseball games this year.

Presidential connection

Former US President George W. Bush was a co-owner of the Texas Rangers from 1989 to 1994 and is a big fan. He threw out the first pitch at Game 1 of the World Series (above). After the Rangers won the title, he said that he and his wife, Laura, were "proud of this team."

Texas Rangers win the World Series

On November 1, the Texas Rangers won Major League Baseball's World Series for the first time in the team's history. They beat the Arizona Diamondbacks in five games, which included an exciting 5–0 victory at Chase Field in Phoenix, Arizona. The Rangers were the oldest Major League team to have never won a World Series.

This year's matchup was an unlikely one. Both teams finished in second place in their divisions and entered the postseason as Wild Cards. In the playoffs, the Rangers were seeded (ranked) fifth out of six teams in the American League while the Diamondbacks were seeded sixth out of six teams in the National League. They both went undefeated in their Wild Card and Division Series games, then pulled out deciding Game 7 wins in their Championship Series competitions to make the World Series.

Zac Gallen

Despite losing three out of four matchups with the Diamondbacks in the regular season, the Rangers started the World Series strong. They took Game 1 at home, 6–5. Arizona had a 5–3 lead in the bottom of the ninth inning, but Texas shortstop Corey Seager crushed a two-run homer to tie the score and force extra innings. Texas won in the bottom of the 11th. Arizona came back to win Game 2, 9–1.

Games 3 through 5 were played in Phoenix. In Game 3, the Rangers won, 3–1, and Seager had another important two-run homer. Powered by an unstoppable offense in Game 4, the Rangers led 10–0 after three innings. Arizona fought back, but the Rangers still won, 11–7.

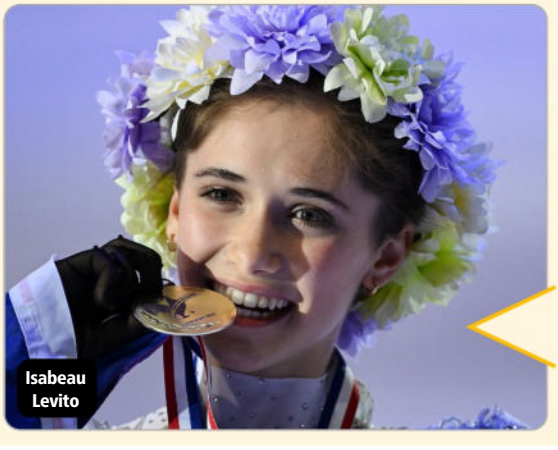
The Diamondbacks needed to win Game 5 to keep the World Series alive. Their pitcher Zac Gallen threw a no-hitter through six innings, but the Rangers broke through in the top of the seventh and went up, 1–0. Texas pitcher Nathan Eovaldi also threw six scoreless innings while navigating baserunners. In the top of the 9th, the Rangers scored four more runs. Closing pitcher Josh Sborz struck out two batters in the bottom of the inning to help secure his team's win.

Seager was named the Most Valuable Player (MVP) of the series. He is the fourth player in MLB history to win two World Series MVP awards.

THIS WEEK'S WINNERS...

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Oklahoma State University beat their in-state rivals, the University of Oklahoma, 27–24, on November 4. They have played each other since 1904 in what is known as the Bedlam rivalry. It may be their last matchup because Oklahoma will be in a different conference next year. In another rivalry game that day, unranked Army beat 17th-ranked Air Force, 23–3. The Air Force team had been undefeated.


Isabeau Levito

BREAKDANCING

On November 4, Grace "Sunny" Choi of the US won the first gold medal in breakdancing at the Pan American Games. She has qualified for the 2024 Paris Olympics, where the sport will make its Olympic debut.

FIGURE SKATING

US skating champion Isabeau Levito, age 16, won the prestigious Grand Prix France on November 4. She is the first American woman to win a figure skating grand prix since 2016.

Hellen Obiri
Marcel Hug
Catherine Debrunner
Tamirat Tola
DID YOU KNOW?
At the first New York City Marathon, held in 1970, 55 out of 127 runners finished the race.

Records set at NYC Marathon

The 52nd running of the New York City Marathon took place on November 5. It is one of the six major marathons in the world. The 26.2-mile course winds through all five boroughs of New York City and ends in Central Park. About 50,000 people competed this year.

Two racers from Switzerland won the wheelchair division. Marcel Hug finished first in the men's race with a time of 1:25:29 and became the first man to win all six major races in one year. The women's winner, Catherine Debrunner, set a course record with a time of 1:39:32. It was her first time in the race, and she finished more than eight minutes ahead of her closest competitor.

Before race day, there was excitement about the combination of runners in the elite women's field. It included Boston Marathon winner Hellen Obiri, 2022 New York City Marathon winner Sharon Lokedi, Brigid Kosgei, who held the marathon world record until September, and Olympic champion Peres Jepchirchir, who withdrew the night before the race with an injury. All four women are from Kenya.

Obiri won with a time of 2:27:23, marking the first time since 1989 that the same woman won the New York and Boston marathons in the same year. She beat second place finisher Letesenbet Gidey of Ethiopia by six seconds. Lokedi placed third, and Kosgei finished in fourth.

On the men's side, the winner was former world champion Tamirat Tola of Ethiopia, who set a course record with a time of 2:04:58. He crossed the finish line nearly two minutes ahead of the second place runner, Albert Korir of Kenya.

COACH OF THE WEEK

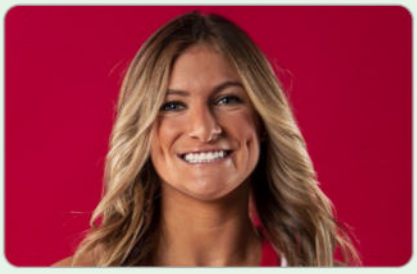
Coach's Name: **Fabian Lopez**

Team: **Hawthorn Woods Elite (Soccer)**

"He is one of the best coaches you could ever have. He reminds us that the score doesn't matter, only how hard you work. When we lose, he motivates us by telling us how hard we worked and to keep working hard. When we win, he tells us to remember it doesn't mean we'll win the next one. He tells us to keep our head in the game and focus, which helps us try hard. Our whole team has improved because of him." Alexa, Hailey, and Madelyn, 10, Illinois

To nominate a Coach of the Week, send your coach's name, photo, sport, and team to *hello@theweekjunior.com.* Include your name, age, state, and a few reasons why your coach is great.

SPOTLIGHT ON...



Jacy Sheldon

AGE: 23 SPORT: BASKETBALL
TEAM: OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

Family sport My dad was a men's basketball coach. I'd watch his practices and try to mimic his players. I used to go to his basketball camps and be the only girl. I had a lot of success and fun at those.

Role model LeBron James is my favorite basketball player. I love how he plays and what a good person he is.

Court time I try to get in the gym twice a day and focus on shooting and ball handling. I don't do extra conditioning, but the amount of time I'm in the gym makes up for it.

Slowing down Injuries have been the hardest thing for me. There was a point where I had to listen to my body and give it a break. That was a lesson because I usually go, go, go all the time.

Eyes forward I hate losing, but it gives us a chance to see what we can improve. Having a short memory is also important. Being able to grow and move on from a loss is the most important piece.

Big goals Making the Elite Eight of the NCAA basketball tournament last spring has been our team's biggest accomplishment. We're excited to expand beyond that. The goal is to do as well as we can in the Big Ten regular season and tournament and make the NCAA Final Four in Cleveland in April.

Winning mindset My sister Emmy has Down syndrome, and she's taught me to look at life differently. A lot of people look at early workouts and rehab times as, "I *have* to go do this." Emmy has taught me that I "*get to*" do all these things. I think it helps you be better in every aspect of your life.

GETTY IMAGES (5); OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS; ON LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES (4)

FUN FACT
In Scandinavian folklore, trolls were originally depicted as giants that lived in castles.

Trolls Band Together

Trolls return in new movie

***Trolls Band Together*, the third film in the popular Trolls franchise, is a funny, music-filled story about togetherness.**

Three years after the last *Trolls* movie was released, the film's popular characters are back in a new music-filled action-comedy. *Trolls Band Together*, the third film in the franchise, arrives in movie theaters on November 17.

The main *Trolls* characters are practical Branch and upbeat Poppy. The new story flashes back to Branch's childhood when he was in a boy band, BroZone, with his brothers. The group broke up and the brothers lost touch, but when Branch learns that his brother Floyd has been kidnapped by evil pop stars, he has to reunite the family to save him. The adventure is told through fun, colorful animation that is bolder and wilder than in the earlier films. "We felt like we could push even further than we've gone before," director Walt Dohrn told *The Week Junior*.

Walt Dohrn

The idea behind *Trolls Band Together* was to explore how Branch became who he is. Dohrn said the film addresses such issues as the challenges of being in a family, wanting to look and act perfect, and feeling connected to others. "What's really important is togetherness," he said.

The *Trolls* films are known for their fun music, and this time the creative team wanted to explore music from the 1990s, when boy bands were very popular. Branch and his brothers' musical harmony is necessary to help Floyd, but the symbolic harmony within relationships is also a major theme. Music stars that voice new characters in the film include Camila Cabello, Troye Sivan, and Kid Cudi.

Dohrn hopes the film is a reminder about experiencing joy in life as well as the importance of family. "With the strength and connection of your family, you're able to accomplish things you might not have alone," he said.

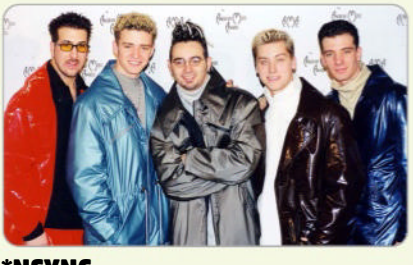
3 famous boy bands

New Edition

Three members of this group met at a Boston elementary school. They got their start performing in local talent shows and were compared to the legendary Jackson 5. Some of their well-known songs include "Candy Girl" and "Cool It Now."

New Kids on the Block

This teen group, which formed in the 1980s, is also from Boston. They have had nine Top 10 hit singles, including "You Got It (the Right Stuff)" and "Hangin' Tough," which they hoped could be an anthem for the Boston Celtics.



*NSYNC

Justin Timberlake (second from left), who voices Branch in the *Trolls* films, was part of this group. After having major success in the late 1990s and early 2000s, *NSYNC reunited to record a new song, "Better Place," for *Trolls Band Together*.

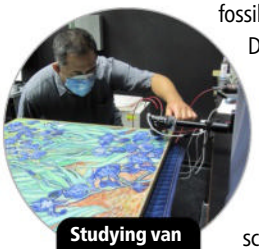
DID YOU KNOW?
The most visited public observatory in the world is the Griffith Observatory in Los Angeles, California.

A 1970 photograph from an exhibit in *PST Art: Art & Science Collide*

Event will mix science and art

Every five years, the cultural and philanthropic institution Getty teams up with museums and institutions in Southern California on an event called PST Art. Getty has announced that the next edition of the event will be *PST Art: Art & Science Collide*, running from September 2024 through January 2025. With more than 60 exhibitions and works by more than 800 artists, it will be the largest art project in the US.

The idea behind PST Art was that museums and institutions working together could "address a subject that was too vast for any one institution alone," said Katherine E. Fleming, who runs the J. Paul Getty Trust. The next edition looks at art and science in new ways and cover topics such as climate change, visual technologies, and cosmology (the study of the origin and evolution of the universe).

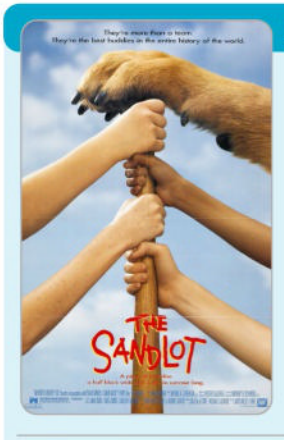


Studying van Gogh's *Irises*

At the Getty Center in Los Angeles, there will be an exhibition about the light and colors in Vincent van Gogh's famous painting *Irises*. It will also host an exhibition about a collaboration between artists and engineers in the 1960s and 1970s. At the La Brea Tar Pits, an active urban fossil dig site in the city, artist Mark Dion will have an exhibition titled *Excavations*. He has been an artist in residence at the Tar Pits and has been helping with excavations and learning about fossils. As part of his show, Dion is making a 10-foot-long sculpture of a pack rat skeleton.

While putting the new PST Art project together, Fleming said there was a real connection between the artists and scientists involved. "We've discovered that all of the artists secretly really want to be scientists," she said, "and all of the scientists secretly really want to be artists."

READER RECOMMENDS

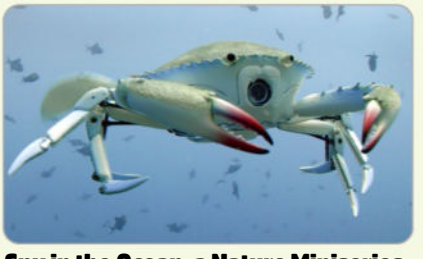


The Sandlot *PG (Major streaming platforms or rent on demand)*
"This movie is totally awesome! It's about a bunch of kids who play baseball in a sandlot. One of them has a baseball signed by Babe Ruth, and it goes over a fence where a huge crazy dog is lurking. The kids try different ways to get it back, like using a bunch of vacuums. My favorite character is Ham. He is so funny, and he has a special jump when they go to the swimming pool—the 'Hammonball.' I like the movie because it is really funny and I like baseball. One of the lessons in the movie is that you should be brave and stand up to things that scare you." Liam, 10, Ohio

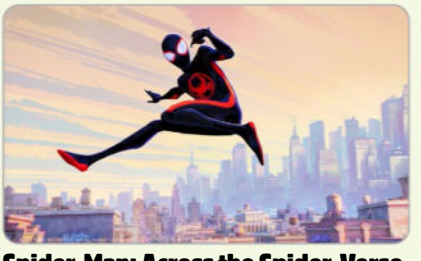
Do you have a film or TV show to recommend to other kids? Send your review to *hello@theweekjunior.com*.

THIS WEEK'S WATCH LIST

The Croods: Family Tree
(Hulu) (Peacock)
Season eight of the series based on *The Croods* films has begun. In the new episodes, expect a wild "Dare Game" played by the Crood and Betterman kids and a competition that brings out Grug Crood's competitive side. There will also be a big feud between the parents.



Spy in the Ocean, a Nature Miniseries
(PBS) (PBS App) (YouTube)
This documentary series stars 30 fake sea creatures built with hidden cameras. They look so realistic that they can blend in with wild animals and record interactions. The "Deep Trouble" episode that premieres on November 15 includes marine iguanas and mantis shrimp.



Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse
(Netflix)
This film, a sequel to *Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse,* which came out in theaters in May, was a big hit. It continues the story of Brooklyn teen Miles Morales, who has become Spider-Man and must decide if he wants to work with Spider-People or be his own hero.

SHUNK-KENDER/J. PAUL GETTY TRUST; CATHERINE PATTERSON/J. PAUL GETTY TRUST; 20TH CENTURY FOX; DREAMWORKS ANIMATION; SIMON ENDERBY/JOHN DOWNER PRODUCTIONS; MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT/SONY PICTURES ANIMATION; ON LEFT PAGE: DREAMWORKS ANIMATION; GETTY IMAGES (4)

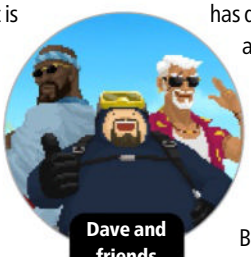
Dave the Diver

Help a diver fish and work

Dave the Diver is a new hybrid role-playing and business management game. It was recently released for the Nintendo Switch, Mac, and PC.

In the game, Dave goes scuba diving, looking for fish and underwater treasure during the day and running a popular sushi restaurant at night. Players are tasked with helping him do both. Although each part is equally important, the key to Dave's success lives underwater.

Right from the start, players dive into the ocean's vast Blue Hole and hunt for fish that Dave will serve in the restaurant. The Blue Hole has six different levels and areas, which players unlock as the game goes on. Each level is filled with new kinds of fish and animals, including angelfish and megamouth sharks, and the sea creatures get harder and harder to catch.


Dave and friends

Dave can also get new equipment and improved fishing gear as the game goes on. He eventually earns items such as cold-resistant diving suits.

In each part of the Blue Hole, Dave has to complete missions, including finding secret passages and treasures. Meanwhile, at the restaurant, he also has dishes to prepare, new recipes to try, and customers to satisfy. In all, there are 43 unique challenges to complete in the game and more than 150 fish to discover and catch.

The director of Dave the Diver, Jaeho Hwang, said many elements inspired the game, including a real sushi bar near the ocean. Meanwhile, the idea for the Blue Hole came from the popular Japanese comic book series *One Piece*, in which the "All Blue" is a spot where all fish in the world live.

PODCAST OF THE WEEK

THE ADVENTURES OF THE STARSHIP COCONUT

Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, Spotify Podcasts

This award-winning adventure comedy is about a crew on a starship traveling through a galaxy mostly made of food. Some of their encounters are with gummy bear DJs and cheese asteroids.

VIDEO OF THE WEEK

HOW TABASCO FILLS HOT SAUCE BOTTLES

tinyurl.com/TWJUS-Tabasco

Tabasco is a 155-year-old brand of hot sauce made in Louisiana. In this video, which goes inside the Tabasco factory, you'll learn about the peppers the company uses, how the sauce ages for five years, and how they fill up to 700,000 bottles a day.

WEBSITE OF THE WEEK

LITTLE BINS AND BRICKS

littlebinsbricks.com

If you're looking for ideas for things to make with Legos, this website is a good source. It features instructions on how to make a Lego mosaic and how to build things such as a marble run, a Lego balloon car, a catapult, or a zip line. There is also a calendar with 30 days of Lego challenges.

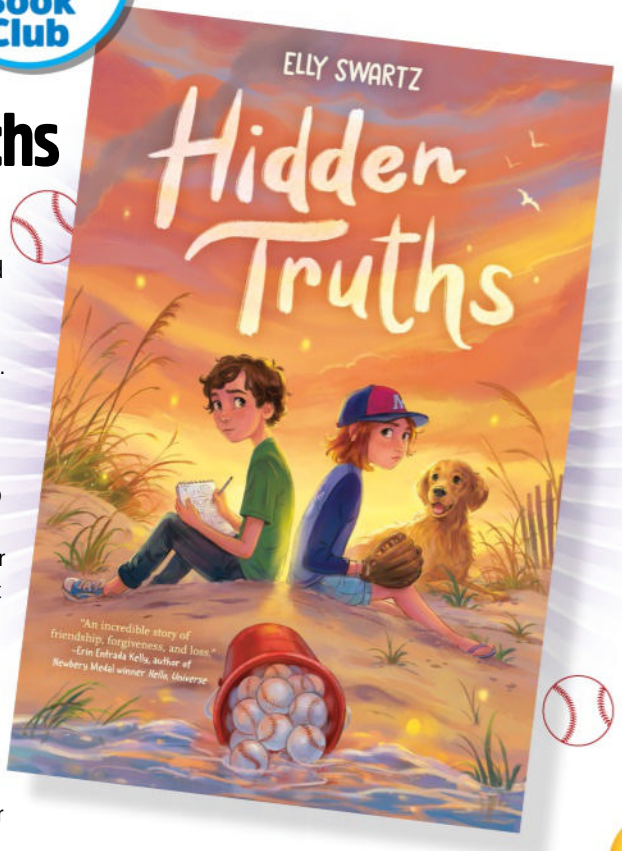
MINTROCKET (2); FREQUENCY PODCAST NETWORK; INSIDER BUSINESS VIA YOUTUBE; LITTLE BINS AND BRICKS

OUR NOVEMBER BOOK CLUB PICK

Hidden Truths

By Elly Swartz

(Delacorte Press)


ELLY SWARTZ
Hidden Truths
"An incredible story of friendship, forgiveness, and loss."
–Erin Entrada Kelly, author of Newbery Medal winner Hello, Universe

After years of hearing "you're good for a girl, but not good enough to make the squad," Dani lands a spot on her school's baseball team. The sixth-grader is on cloud nine after her first team meeting. Then everything changes when a fire breaks out while on a camping trip with her best friend and neighbor, Eric. He pulls Dani to safety, but her leg and shoulder are badly hurt. At the hospital, Dani learns that she won't be able to play baseball and will need to use a wheelchair until her body heals. At first, everyone thinks Eric is a hero for saving Dani's life. Later on, Eric, who has a disorder that interferes with his ability to concentrate, confesses that he may have caused the fire by forgetting to turn off the stove. Dani lashes out at Eric and becomes friends with Meadow, a girl whose sister is in the hospital recovering from an accident. Meadow posts a video suggesting Eric caused the accident. But the whole truth hasn't come out yet. In this nail-biting story that's full of surprises, chapters alternate between the perspectives of Dani and Eric.

WIN A BOOK!

We're giving away one signed copy of *Hidden Truths*.

For a chance to win, send your name and address to *contests@theweekjunior.com* with Hidden Truths in the subject line. Enter by midnight on December 1. See theweekjunior.com/terms for complete rules.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR YOUR BOOK CLUB

Hidden Truths gives readers a lot to think about when it comes to making mistakes, honesty, and forgiveness. These questions can help you talk about the book with others who have read it.

- **Do you think Dani would have reacted differently to Eric's confession if he had told her sooner? Why or why not?**
- **What would you say is the difference between lying and hiding the truth?**
- **Do you have more empathy for Dani or Eric? Explain your answer.**
- **How did Dani let Eric down as a friend?**
- **What kinds of bullying are portrayed in the story?**
- **Do you think Dani and Meadow's friendship will last? Why or why not?**
- **Which of the story's many twists surprised you the most and why?**

JOIN *THE WEEK JUNIOR*'S BOOK CLUB

Watch a special video Elly Swartz created for *The Week Junior* and learn more about how our monthly book club works at kids.theweekjunior.com/bookclub.

Ask the author

The Week Junior spoke to Elly Swartz, author of *Hidden Truths*. Her books are known for having middle-school characters who defy expectations.

Where did you draw inspiration for the character Dani?

Growing up with two older brothers, I never liked being told I couldn't do something. Dani represents any child who has been confined to a label or stereotype and wants to break through.

How can kids handle a mistake?

Everyone is going to make mistakes. What you do afterward is what matters. Focus on giving a sincere apology and see if you can learn from the experience.

Did you always want to write?

I didn't consider writing as a career until I was older. When my son was in fourth grade, we read *Mick Harte Was Here* by Barbara Park. It made me laugh, it made me cry, and I said, "I want to write books for kids that make them feel all the feels."

When did you write this book?

I wrote *Hidden Truths* in 2001, long before my first book, *Finding Perfect,* was published. I got hundreds of rejections and kept revising it.

What do you hope readers take away from the story?

I hope they realize that neither Dani or Eric was completely right or wrong. They were both hurting for different reasons.

What can kids do to help friendships last?

Here are my three best strategies: Be true to yourself, be kind, and be a good listener.

Any Thanksgiving traditions?

Yes! My husband makes a gluten-free, dairy-free strawberry banana cream pie for Thanksgiving and makes a second one for my birthday, which is around Thanksgiving.

BOOK: COURTESY OF PUBLISHER; AUTHOR: GREG SWARTZ; GETTY IMAGES

DID YOU KNOW?
In a recent survey, 40% of adults said their most cherished holiday tradition is spending time with family and friends.

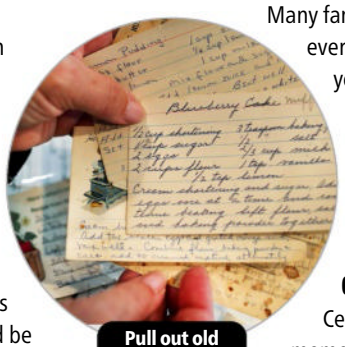
Celebrate family traditions

Experience the joy of making long-lasting memories together.

Your family may have special traditions, particularly during this time of year as the holidays approach. Whether making cookies, walking around the neighborhood to enjoy colorful lights, or watching a favorite holiday movie, these traditions can help you feel closer to the people you love. You can enjoy established traditions or create new ones together. Here's how to get started.

Consider current traditions

Think about the traditions your family already has, then write them down. For example, a shared tradition might be going to a favorite ice cream stand on vacation every summer. This time of year, you may have several traditions centered on upcoming holidays. They could include making a cherished family recipe, posing in front of your home every year for a family photo, or getting new matching winter pajamas. Ask older adults in your family what traditions they remember participating in as children. There could be some they might have forgotten but may enjoy reviving.



Pull out old family recipes.

Brainstorm new ideas

Next, gather the thoughts you and your family may have for brand-new traditions. Add those ideas to your list. For instance, you could discuss making a special once-a-year outing, like going to a nice restaurant or seeing a show. Traditions can also be super simple. For example, on Thanksgiving Day, you could plan to watch the annual Macy's parade on TV, round up relatives before dinner to play a family game of football, or volunteer at a soup kitchen to serve others. Also consider initiating new food traditions, like creating a waffle bar with everyone's favorite toppings the morning after a big holiday.

Get your relatives on board

Many families have members who love to organize and bring everyone together. Think about who those people are in your family, whether it's a parent, aunt, uncle, or grandparent. They can help you with creating the "guest list" for any special family gathering, picking a date and time, and choosing the setting. They can also help you plan a video call with loved ones who may live far away but still want to share in the fun.

Create a keepsake

Celebrating traditions is a great way to create family memories that last forever. Consider taking photos while you're spending time together. Then you can display one in a frame to remind your family all year long of the fun you had. If you try a new tradition, take time afterward to reflect on it. Did your family enjoy it? Is there anything you would do differently next time? The point of a tradition is to like it so much that you want to do it again. It's also OK to change it in a way that works best for your family.

WOW! Some pine cones stay on the tree for more than 10 years before opening up to release the seeds inside them.

WARNING! Ask an adult's permission before using hot glue.

Make animal figurines from pine cones

What you need

- Pipe cleaners
- Pine cones
- Scissors
- Colored cardstock paper
- Hot or white glue

Instructions

1. To make arms or legs for all the animals, hold a single pipe cleaner at both ends and pull the center down between the scales so that the middle is buried in the cone. Pull the two ends down and use scissors to trim each end to your desired arm or leg length.
2. To make the lion, add two sets of legs as described above. For the mane, cut a small doughnut shape out of paper and slip it over the top of the pine cone. Cut V shapes all around the outside of your circle to make it look like the fringe of a lion's mane. Glue on a piece of pipe cleaner as a tail, and twist the end.
3. To make the bear, glue a small pine cone to the top of a larger pine cone. Add arms and legs to the bottom cone as described in step one. Cut a small paper circle for a snout and poke a short snip of pipe cleaner through the center of the snout to make the nose. Bend the pipe cleaner down and glue the other side to the head. Cut two paper ears and glue each one between the pine cone's scales on both sides of the bear's head.
4. To make the bird, add one set of legs as described in step one. Cut two paper wings (they should look like stretched-out semi-circle shapes) and glue them on both sides of the pine cone. Fold a small paper triangle in half and glue it to the head for a beak. Cut a long, thin triangle for the tail and glue it on the end opposite the head.
5. To make the dog, add two sets of legs as described in step one. Cut two ears out of paper and glue them in between the scales on either side. Make the tail by gluing on a pipe cleaner. Finish the tail by trimming some fluff off the end with scissors.

ECO TIP OF THE WEEK: USE UP HOLIDAY LEFTOVERS

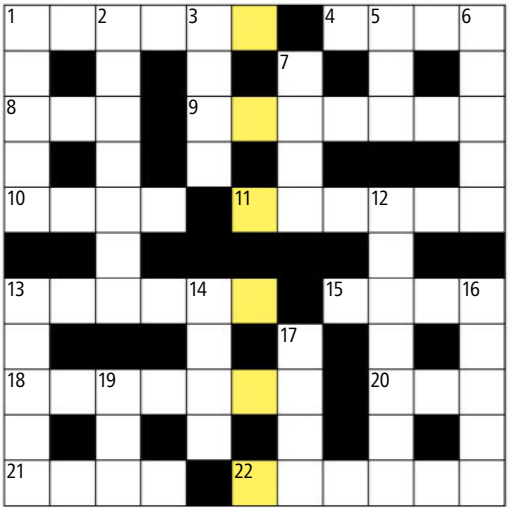
After a big meal like Thanksgiving dinner, there are often lots of leftovers. It's a good idea to use them up before they spoil, not only to avoid food waste but so they don't end up in landfills—both of which help the environment. When you have a lot of remaining food, you may want to get creative. You can use leftovers to make new dishes, such as a turkey sandwich with cranberry sauce or s'mores layered with pumpkin pie. Challenge your family to see who can come up with the best recipe! Another option is to portion out the leftover food into small containers and freeze them. You can defrost them later and warm them up for quick lunches or easy dinners.

Layer up a turkey sandwich.

JODI LEVINE FOR SUPERMAKEIT; GETTY IMAGES; ON LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES

Keyword crossword

Once you have completed the crossword, transfer the letters in the yellow boxes, in order, into the boxes below to get the answer to the Keyword question. (NEED A HINT? Check the bottom of the page.)



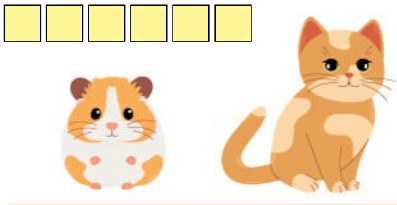
ACROSS

1 Disappear like a magician's assistant
4 It's between the * and the # on a phone's keypad
8 A dog, cat, hamster, or bunny, for example
9 Ask for
10 Location for a chimney
11 What shampoo becomes when used in the shower
13 Small, two-piece bathing suit
15 Imaginary slanted line through the Earth that it rotates around
18 Central part of a cell or an atom
20 ___ gift (present that's meant to be funny)
21 Solemn promise, like one spoken in a courtroom
22 Metallic object that attracts other pieces of metal to it

DOWN

1 Mist from a humidifier's nozzle
2 TV company like NBC or CBS
3 Ride the waves
5 A patch might be worn over this
6 Mammal often seen floating on its back
7 Light bluish-green color
12 Shape of each of a beehive's cells
13 Instrument mentioned in the song "Oh! Susanna"
14 Must get
16 Sense associated with 5-Down's answer
17 Largest and most populated continent
19 Use a pair of scissors

Keyword question: What was the first element discovered in outer space before it was detected on Earth?



CODE CRACKER

In this coded list of appliances, every letter has been replaced with a substitute. The same substitutions are used throughout the list. Hint: Every X here is an uncoded R. Use the letter patterns you find to crack the code.

		R												R
L	B	X	D	U	R	K	B	E	B	U	R	A	X	
			R											
C	B	D	X	U	S	L	Q	A	U	Q	A	R		
S	L	V	Z	B	R	M	C	L	D	Z	B	R	A	

ANSWERS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 29.

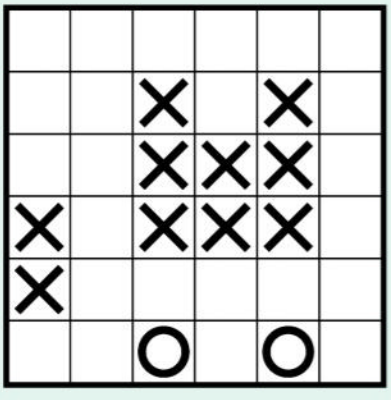
THREE FOR ALL

Sort this list into three familiar three-part phrases, like THREE-RING CIRCUS or SALT LAKE CITY.

IT MOVING LET SLOW YOUR
SHOW VEHICLE WORK SNOW

Hit or miss

Place an X or O in each empty square so there are never more than three X's or O's together in a row, column, or diagonal. Hint: If you find three in a row of one letter, you can put the other letter into the spaces at either end.



Spot the difference

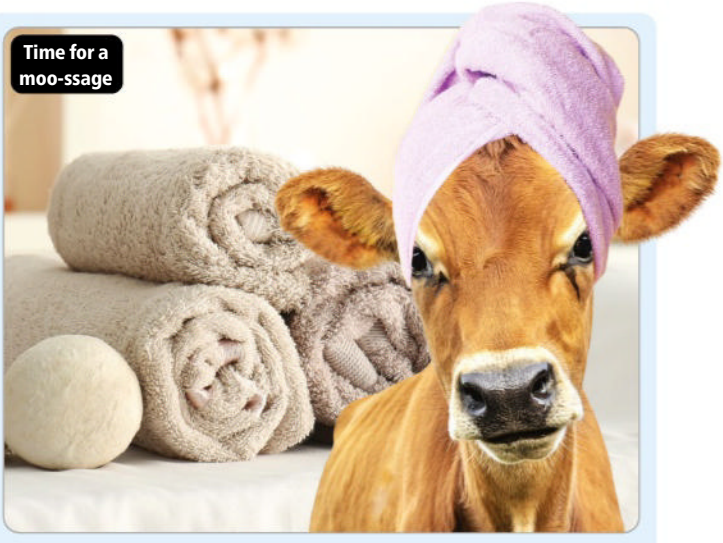
These two pictures of a Mona Lisa mural in Ohio appear to be the same, but take a closer look. There are actually five differences. Can you see them?

PUZZLES BY PUZZABILITY

Keyword crossword hint: The second letter of 18-Across is U.

A trip down memory lane

A 94-year-old man in the UK made an amazing find. Malcolm Stern was trying to create a 3D model of the car his father once owned, a yellow 1930 Talbot Darracq. While searching for reference photos, Stern found his dad's original car on an auction website. He said the vehicle looked like a "wreck," but he bought it and spent about 1,000 hours restoring it. "Many people get old cars, but this one is different," said Stern. "I think my father would be very proud."



Cows' udderly relaxing retreat

The cows at Leeanna Thomas's farm in Texas are treated to a life of luxury with regular spa days. Thomas doesn't just bathe the animals to keep them clean—she also moisturizes their hooves and noses, gives them massages, and treats them to face masks. And she looks after the calves who need extra support after they've been born, giving them the pampering she feels they deserve. "I always get asked how my cows are so gentle," Thomas wrote on social media. "It's because this is the loving and gentleness they receive."

The perils of snail mail

A mailbox in the town of Lewdown, in the UK, has been overrun by snails with an appetite for letters. Residents say the snails have been there for at least a year, snacking on people's mail. What could be so appetizing? It's the envelope glue, apparently. The Royal Mail (the UK's postal service) said that despite daily efforts to remove the snails, the "very determined" creatures always return. The post office has now taped a sign to the mailbox, warning that mail might not arrive "without some nibble marks around the edges."

Politicians meet at Disneyland

Hundreds of politicians gathered at Disneyland Paris for a meeting about the future of tourism in Europe. The group, made up of top decision-makers for the European Union (a collection of 27 countries that work and trade together), felt the French theme park was the perfect place to discuss new measures to boost the tourism industry. They made sure to mention that neither Mickey Mouse nor Donald Duck took part in the meetings. Is this true, or is it pure fantasy?*

*Fake! The leaders were actually taking a train to a meeting at the European Parliament in Strasbourg, France. Due to a mistake with the signaling on the train line, they ended up at the station for Disneyland.

JUSTIN DEALEY/BBC; SHUTTERSTOCK (4); GETTY IMAGES (2); ON LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES (2)

Editor's note

When we sent this issue of *The Week Junior* to the printer on November 7, Election 2023 was underway across the US (p5). Elections that take place in odd-numbered years typically don't receive as much attention as elections in even years because the President and most members of Congress are not on the ballot. But odd-year elections are important nonetheless because they determine who will hold power and make decisions in the states and communities where they occur. More than 70 races are happening in New York, the state where I live, for example. Mayors, county executives, city council members, and state Supreme Court judges will be chosen. Elsewhere in the US, races for governor and state legislature are being decided. When this issue went to press, the polls were still open in every state. We will have a full report on the results next week.

Andrea Barbalich
Editor-in-Chief

CHARITY OF THE WEEK

The Elephant Project

This organization works to protect elephants and other animals around the world. The group raises money by making and selling special stuffed animals. It provides funds to groups in Africa and Asia so they can keep elephants safe from poaching (illegal hunting of animals) and care for injured or orphaned elephants, big cats, and more. Find out more at theelephantproject.com.

Going on a solo adventure

"I sailed solo from Falmouth, Cape Cod, to Vineyard Haven, Martha's Vineyard, and back in my sailboat! I wanted to do something different and challenging before my 11th birthday. When I arrived at the Black Dog dock in Vineyard Haven, I ate cookies with my parents and met great people. Then I started to sail back. The waves were big, and the wind was heavy on the way back. I got a little off course but changed my heading and made it to Falmouth Harbor. It was awesome riding the waves. I am going to continue to sail and come up with new adventures. One day I hope to sail in the Olympics."

Briggs, 10, Massachusetts

Have you done something interesting or raised money for a cause you care about? Whatever you're up to, we want to hear about it at *hello@theweekjunior.com.*

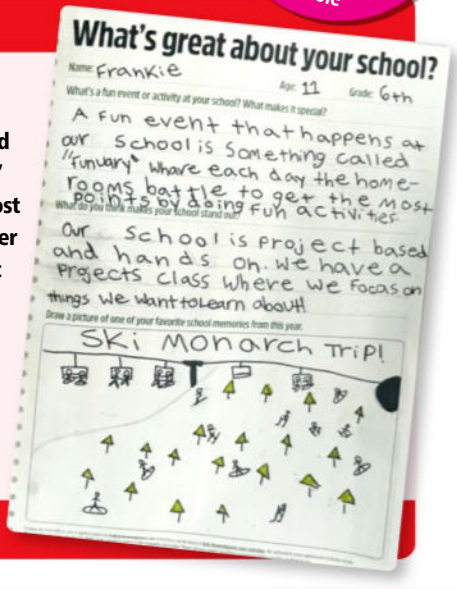
RIDDLE OF THE WEEK

What can you put in a bucketful of water to make it lighter?

A hole

Tell us about your school!

Frankie, who is 11 years old and in sixth grade, told us her school is special because it offers "Funuary." This is when the homerooms battle to earn the most points by doing fun activities. She also likes that her school is project-based and kids can focus on what they want to learn about. If you want to share what's great about your school, go to kids.theweekjunior.com/activities to print out a form. Fill it out, then have an adult email it to us at *hello@theweekjunior.com.* We'll feature some of the submissions on this page in future issues.


What's great about your school?
Name: Frankie
Age: 11
Grade: 6th
What's a fun event or activity at your school? What makes it special?
A fun event that happens at our school is something called "Funuary" where each day the homerooms battle to get the most points by doing fun activities.
What do you think makes your school stand out?
Our school is project based and hands on. We have a projects class where we focus on things we want to learn about!
Draw a picture of one of your favorite school memories from this year.
Ski Monarch Trip!

THE WEEK Junior IT'S YOUR TURN Email your news, views, and photos to *hello@theweekjunior.com.*

YOUR PHOTOS

We'd love to see pictures you've taken or pictures with you in them! Have an adult email them to us at *hello@theweekjunior.com*, along with anything you would like us to know about what's happening in the photo.

"I love the books by Ali Stroker and Stacy Davidowitz. I was so excited to see them in *The Week Junior*! I've had their new book pre-ordered for months." Clara, 11, Georgia

"I was inspired by Fat Bear Week and decided to make Fat Bear Cupcakes! They were fun and delicious!" Phoebe, 12, California

"I love reading *The Week Junior* every week!" Anahita, 9, Massachusetts

Teacher OF THE WEEK

Teacher's Name: **Mrs. Susan Loftus**

School: **Burning Tree Elementary**

"Mrs. Loftus was an amazing teacher. She really helped put spirit into physical education and made it very fun. She cheered us on no matter what we did. This year she passed away, and everyone at Burning Tree Elementary School misses her. We think she was a great teacher who impacted many lives."

Patrick, 10, Maryland

Nominate your teacher for Teacher of the Week!
Send your reason for the nomination, a photo of your teacher, and your school's name and address to *hello@theweekjunior.com*.

GETTY IMAGES: ON LEFT PAGE: COURTESY SAVE US

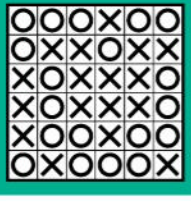
Puzzle answers (from page 26)

Keyword answer: helium

V	A	N	I	S	H	■	Z	E	R	O
A	■	E	■	U	■	A	■	Y	■	T
P	E	T	■	R	E	Q	U	E	S	T
O	■	W	■	F	■	U	■	■	■	E
R	O	O	F	■	L	A	T	H	E	R
■	■	R	■	■	■	■	■	E	■	■
B	I	K	I	N	I	■	A	X	I	S
A	■	■	■	E	■	A	■	A	■	I
N	U	C	L	E	U	S	■	G	A	G
J	■	U	■	D	■	I	■	O	■	H
O	A	T	H	■	M	A	G	N	E	T

Code cracker
air conditioner
microwave oven
washing machine

Three for all
"Let It Snow"
slow-moving vehicle
show your work



Quiz answers (from page 30)

1 c) BroZone **2** The *Mona Lisa* **3** a) Baseball **4** True **5** a) Boston **6** Norway spruce **7** b) Indonesia **8** True **9** Sushi **10** False. It is held every five years. **11** b) North Carolina **12** True **13** b) Festival of Lights **14** Soap **15** c) Snails

We want to hear from you! To have your letters, photos, nominations, recommendations, or ideas considered for inclusion in the magazine, please include your full name, age, and state with your submission. By emailing your submission to us, you give *The Week Junior* consent to publish it in the magazine and online. Please get your parent/guardian's permission before sending anything to us.

How much of this week's news can you remember?

1 The new movie *Trolls Band Together* features flashbacks to Branch's time in what boy band?

a) BroOut b) GoBro c) BroZone

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

2 Researchers recently discovered a rare compound called plumbonacrite in which famous painting?

3 In the book *Hidden Truths*, Dani makes her school's team in which sport?

a) Baseball b) Basketball c) Football

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

4 True or false? Preservation Hall in New Orleans got its name because it was helping to "preserve" jazz music.

True ☐ False ☐

5 Hellen Obiri, the 2023 New York City Marathon winner, also won the marathon in which other city this year?

a) Boston b) London c) Tokyo

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

6 What species of tree was chosen as this year's Rockefeller Center Christmas tree?

7 A baby Sumatran rhino was recently born in a national park in what country?

a) Cambodia b) Indonesia c) Malaysia

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

8 True or false? A study found that soccer goalies perceive the world differently than other players do.

True ☐ False ☐

ANSWERS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 29.

9 In the video game Dave the Diver, what kind of food does Dave's restaurant serve?

10 True or false? The PST Art event sponsored by Getty is held every three years.

True ☐ False ☐

11 Erin Matson, the youngest coach in NCAA Division I sports, leads a university field hockey team in which state?

a) Maryland b) North Carolina c) Virginia

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

12 True or false? West African dwarf crocodiles make sounds similar to a cow mooing.

True ☐ False ☐

13 The Hindu celebration of Diwali is also known by what name?

a) Festival of Hearts

b) Festival of Lights

c) Festival of Sounds

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

14 Heman Bekele won a prize for inventing a cancer-fighting version of which everyday product?

15 Which small creatures have been eating mail from a mailbox in the UK town of Lewdown?

a) Ants b) Ladybugs c) Snails

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

THE WEEK Junior

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Publisher: Stevie Lee (*stevie.lee@futurenet.com*)
Account director: Mary Gallagher (*mary.gallagher@futurenet.com*)
US manufacturing and distribution manager: Lori Crook
Editor-in-chief, *The Week*: Theunis Bates
Digital director, TheWeek.com: Holden Frith

Reader submissions: *hello@theweekjunior.com*
Customer service: *TWJcustserv@cdsfulfillment.com*
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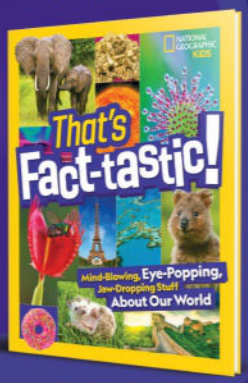
What's on your Holiday Wish List?

Wacky facts, stats, quizzes, and fun for the year ahead!

Celebrate with a mismatch! May 9, 2024, is Lost Sock Memorial Day.

Cool stuff about science, space, culture, and more!

The wind on Mount Everest can blow stronger than a category 5 hurricane.

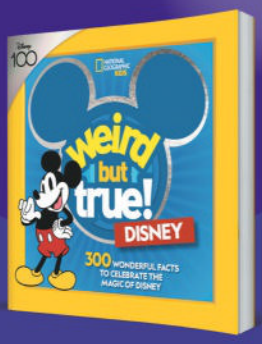


Amazing details and discoveries about dinos!

Think you could outrun a single T. rex? New evidence indicates they likely hunted in packs.

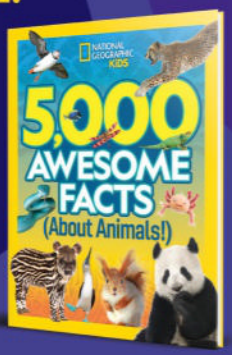
Behind-the-scenes Disney fun facts, from Mickey Mouse and movies to much more!

Mickey Mouse's first words on film were "hot dog!"



5,000 reasons we LOVE animals ... they're AWESOME!

When a rhino is happy it makes this sound: ***Mmwonk!***



Delightful dog jokes, activities, experiments, and info!

The name of the cuddly Tibetan Lhasa Apso means "bearded lion dog!"

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